Network of food processing industries in A.P.

1954. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of network of food processing industries in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government to train farmers, particularly women in Andhra Pradesh in food processing techniques;

(c) the details of financial, technical and marketing assistance given to food processing industries in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) whether the State nodal agencies have been nominated in Andhra Pradesh for coordination and promotion of food processing sector; and

(e) if so, the details of agencies and the details of project proposals forwarded by these agencies to his Ministry in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (e) The Government does not set up food processing units on its own. As food processing industries are both in organized and unorganized sectors, details of units are not centrally maintained in the Ministry. However, Government has formulated and implemented several Plan Schemes to provide financial assistance for establishment and modernization of food processing units, creation of infrastructure, etc. Food processing is declared as a priority sector. Under the scheme for technology upgradation/modernization/establishment of food processing industries assistance in the form of grant-in-aid is provided for establishment/ modernization of food processing units @ 25% of the project cost of plant & machinery and technical civil works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakh in general areas and 33.33% of the project cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 75 lakh in difficult areas.

Details of financial assistance provided to the food processing units in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years are as under:

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakh)
2003-04	465.57
2004-05	797.67
2005-06	689.80

Government has already nominated the Principal Secretary, Industries & Commerce Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh as the State Nodal Agency for the State of Andhra Pradesh for recommendation the project proposals to the Ministry of Food Processing Industries. Details of project proposals received from the State Nodal Agency of Andhra Pradesh during the last three years are as follows:

Year	No. of Project Proposals
2003-04	143
2004-05	113
2005-06	44

Sale of Modern Industries (India) Ltd.

†1955. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the PSU namely Modern Industries (India) Limited was sold to Hindustan Lever Limited;

(b) if so, the total number of units of the said undertaking at the time of its sale;

(c) whether all the said units are still functional; and

(d) if not, the total number of functional units and the total number of employees who have been given retirement from their service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) The Modern Food Industries was fully disinvested to M/s Hindustan Lever Limited (HLL) in 2002 and it is now a 100% subsidiary of HLL and is a private company. At the time of 100% disinvestments in November, 2002, there were 14 operational units. Subsequently, 3 units manufacturing Supplementary Nutrition Foods and 5 Bread Units were closed down.

Currently, there are 6 bread units in operation. 415 workmen have been relieved from the service of the company. They were offered VRS benefits. However, 70 workmen of 2 of the supplementary Nutrition Foods Unit refused to avail VRS benefits and were relieved on payment of closure compensation as per law.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.